

Springfield Theatre Centre

PRESENTS

Santa's Workshop's Got Talent A Virtual Delight

By: LaVinia Roberts

Laney Aleman Jonas M. Croke Cohen Eck Caleb Eck Keagan Eck Jack Flick Sofia Flick Reagan Gentry Margaret Hacke

Producers: Liz Brown-Reeves & Bess Johnson

> Vocal Director: Judy McEvoy

Props: Melody Sheehan

Art: Henry Reeves

Phoebe Hacke Charlie Holzmacher Jane Holzmacher Grace Ingersoll Zoe Jennings Cora McMann Zoey Miller Apollo Phemister Aria Philibrick

Director/ Stage Manager: Cynthia Higginson

Choreographer: Kate Von de Bur

Make-up & Hair Design: Stacv Kolaz & Jenna Mack-Stubbs

Adam Schnell Theo Schleider Olivia Smith Jasmine Stubbs Charlotte Stewart Izzy Stewart Jackie Tucka Genevieve Utterback

Henry Reeves

Director: Shawn Schofield Smith

> Costumes: Laurabeth Allen & Cynthia Higginson

> > Video Editor: Jacob Deters

Zoom Tech Director: Jack Flick

with Cast (in order of appearance):

Holly	Izzy Stewart
Mistletoe	
Santa Claus	Jack Flick
Mrs. Claus	
Ruby	Grace Ingersoll
Twinkle	
Jingle	Caleb Eck
Bell 1	
Bell 2	Jane Holzmacher
Jack Frost	Charlie Holzmacher
Snow Queen	Jackie Tucka
Merry	Laney Aleman
Joy	
Jolly	Cohen Eck
Tinsel	Keagan Eck
Rudolph	Apollo Phemister
Donner	
Blitzen	Henry Reeves
Dasher	Zoey Miller
Dancer	Aria Philbrick
Prancer	Charlotte Stewart
Cupid	
Vixen	Sofia Flick
Comet	
Ginger	
Cookie	
Sugar Plum	Cora McMann

Staff

Director	Shawn Schofield Smith
Co-Director/Stage Manager	Cynthia Higginson
Vocal Director	Judy McEvoy
Choreographer	Kate Von de Bur
CostumesLa	aurabeth Allen & Cynthia Higginson
Props	Melody Sheehan
Make-upStacy Kola:	z, Jenna Mack-Stubbs, and Parents
BakersJen Gronewol	d, Tanner Stephens, Joe Higginson,
	Elizabeth & Zoe Miller
12 Days of Christmas Artist	Henry Reeves
Zoom Tech Director	Jack Flick
	Jacob Deters
Producers	Liz Brown-Reeves & Bess Johnson

Springfield Theatre Centre Board of Directors

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Bill Bauser, Jr Kelly Robertson



Illinois Symphony Youth Orchestra

- Director: Logan Campbell
- Violins: Micah Howard Megan Hoppe Madeline Bollman David Lu Jasmine Baxter
- Violas: Malik Greco Finn Powell
- Cello: Leotie Philbrick
- Piano: Julia Mitra
- Oboe: Lauren Carley
- Clarinets: Trevor Good Phoebe Helle
- Horn: Chase Webb



Directors Notes

As Ruby the Redlipped Reindeer says, "There is no business like snow business!" As a fellow actor/director I know just how true this quote is, and that is why I decided to work with Cynthia Higginson to take on the challenges of a virtual theatre format in an attempt to bring back the joy of theatre to the community! In just 4 short weeks we have seen this talented cast of young people exceed our expectations. They memorized their lines, learned their dances and songs, and developed their characters like pros while navigating the unfamiliar territory of virtual rehearsals and recording their performance. It was an absolute pleasure to work with this awesome cast, their parents, Cynthia, and the STC Board to put this production together! Thank you all so much for Putting a smile back on my face and the joy of theatre back into my heart!

-Shawn Schofield Smith

I echo everything Shawn said. One of my favorite things in life is to help people connect and celebrate other's successes. And with this show, I've got to do both! To our staff - I'm sure you all thought we were crazy when we said - "hey- we want to put on a show in 4 weeks...". Thank you for saying yes! To the parents - THANK YOU - this was a different experience and I appreciate your patience and support as we worked through issues. To the cast. I am so immensely proud of each and every one of you - you ALL had better audition for me in the future! Love you all!

- Cynthia Higginson

Thank you to Show Sponsor





*Laney Aleman (Merry) attends school at Blessed Sacrament. She enjoys playing piano and guitar, singing with the church choir, and playing with her dog, Ruby. She thanks the directors of the show for providing this opportunity to continue in theater during these times. Laney has performed at Hoogland's *James and the Giant Peach*, *Frozen Jr.*, and other roles at shows at HCFTA and TIP including *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Little Mermaid*. *Ir*

The Wizard of Oz, Charlotte's Web, and The Little Mermaid Jr.



*Jonas M. Croke (Cookie the Elf) attends Springfield Ball Charter. He loves playing the fiddle, reading, sports, and cooking. He thanks his family for supporting him, Mrs. Holzmacher for telling him to try out and all the people for making the show. This is his first show!



*Cohen Eck (Jolly) attends St. Agnes School. His hobbies include baseball, football, and singing. He thanks his family for letting him try out for this show and his big brother, Keagan, for being such a good role model in theater. Cohen has had the opportunity to perform in St. Agnes plays.



*Caleb Eck (Jingle) attends St. Agnes School. His hobbies include baseball, football, and singing. He would like to thank his family for encouraging him to audition and his big brother, Keagan, for inspiring him. Caleb has had the opportunity to perform in St. Agnes plays.



Keagan Eck (Tinsel) attends St. Agnes School. He enjoys reading, theater, and Scholastic Bowl. He thanks Cynthia, Shawn, and the staff of this show for providing the experience to perform with his brothers. Keagan has performed in STC's *Junie B. Jones* and Muni's *Peter Pan*.



Jack Flick (Santa) attends Glenwood Intermediate. He loves gaming and watching YouTube. Jack would like to thank his parents and Nana for always being awesome! Special thanks to STC for working so hard to put on this show during these crazy times! Jack has been part of productions such as STC's *Joseph*

and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Muni's Wizard of Oz, and TIP's The Little Mermaid, Jr. to name a few!



Sofia Flick (Vixen) attends Glenwood High School. She loves playing ukulele, skateboarding, reading, and of course doing theater! Special thanks to her wonderful Nana who has been enthusiastic about Jack and I being a part of this show, and to the staff for making this show happen. Sofia is not a stranger to the stage and has performed in shows at Muni, Hoogland, and TIP.

Her STC shows include *The Music Man Jr., Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, A Christmas Carol, and The Spirit of Lincoln.*



Reagan Gentry (Bell 1) is back on the stage for STC. Reagan has been in STC's *Junie B Jones* and *A Christmas Carol*. She has also been in The Muni's *Wizard of Oz* and *Willy Wonka*. Reagan is a cheerleader and member of poms at Athens High School. Reagan thanks her vocal teacher Sara B and my family for being supportive, and Cynthia and Shawn for giving me this opportunity.



Margaret Hacke (Joy) attends Porta Junior High School. She loves swimming, reading, baking, and socializing with friends. She would like to thank her mom for encouraging her to try out for the show. Special thanks also to her sister, Phoebe, for practicing with her. Shout out to the directors for organizing such a unique show. Margaret has played a variety of roles, including

an Ooompa Loompa in Muni's *Willy Wonka*, a villager in TIP's *Distant Thunder*, STC's *Annie Get Your Gun* and many more!



*Phoebe Hacke (Cupid) attends Porta Junior High School. She enjoys swimming, hosting fashion shows, science experiments, and hanging out with friends. She thanks her sister, Maggie, for helping her audition, and Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Smith for their encouragement. special thanks to her friend, Emsley, for always supporting her. Phoebe has performed in TIP's *Lion King, Jr.* and

Porta High School's Sound of Music.



Charlie Holzmacher (Jack Frost) attends Franklin Middle School. His hobbies include baseball, Scholastic Bowl, theater, and piano. He would like to thank his family for their ongoing support. Charlie is no stranger to the stage, and has played in a variety of shows, including, Muni's *Peter Pan*, STC's *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Junie B. Jones, Jr.*, and *A Christmas Carol*, to name a few.



Jane Holzmacher (Bell 2) attends Owen Marsh Elementary. She enjoys doing gymnastics and playing with friends. She thanks her mom for helping her get ready for everything. Jane has performed in STC's *It's a Wonderful Life*.



Grace Ingersoll (Ruby) attends school at Williamsville Junior High School. She is a cheerleader and loves to dance, act, sing, draw, and read. Special thanks to her parents and Liz for encouraging her to try out for the show, and to Henry for doing the show with her. Grace has had the opportunity to perform in shows at the Muni and Hoogland, including *Willy Wonka*, *Wizard*

of Oz, Junie B. Jones, Jr., and more!



*Zoe Jennings (Ginger) attends Chatham Elementary School. She loves theater (especially *Hamilton*) reading, dancing, school, piano, and playing with her little sister. She thanks her mom, dad, and sister, Caroline. Special shout out to Lin-Manual Miranda for inspiring her love of theater. This is her first show, but she can't wait to audition for more!



Cora McMann (Sugar Plum) attends Pleasant Plains Middle School, and she loves gymnastics. She thanks her parents, brother, and sister. Cora has played in STC's *School House Rock Jr., Once on this Island,* and *Junie B Jones.* She also had the opportunity to play in TIP's *Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin, Jr*.



*Zoey Miller (Dasher) attends Glenwood High School. She loves animals, drawing, painting, and writing. Special thanks to her parents, Matthew and Elizabeth Miller, and her sister, Melody Miller for supporting her. Zoey has played in Glenwood Middle School's *Seussical Jr.* and *A Disney Dilemma*. She was also cast in STC's *Pinkalicious*.



*Apollo Phemister (Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer) is homeschooled. He enjoys piano, tumbling, and horse events. Special thanks to his parents, Atlas, Winston, and Crumpet.



Aria Philbrick (Dancer) attends Rochester Junior High School. She enjoys dancing, playing the tuba, viola, and piano, making soap and decorating. She thanks her mom, dad, and sister, Leia for all their support in her love of music and the arts. Special thanks also to Mr. Vala for teaching her theater and music. Aria has performed in a variety of shows, such as Hoogland's *Matilda* and *Frozen, Jr.* She was also cast in STC's *Pinkalicious*.



Henry Reeves (Blitzen) returns to the stage for another STC show. Henry's portrayed the Mayor Munchkin City in the Muni's *Wizard of Oz*, Young Clyde in STC's *Bonnie & Clyde* and Sheldon in STC's *Junie B Jones*. Henry loves doing art, singing and hanging with friends. Henry thanks his parents, Leo, Aunt Francie, his voice teacher Sara B and his BFF Grace.



Adam Schnell (Mistletoe) attends Pleasant Plains High School. He enjoys writing, playing Dungeons and Dragons, running, and playing video games. He would like to thank his mom and dad for their support. Most recently, you may have seen Adam in STC's *You Don't Know Jack* and *Junie B Jones, Jr*. He has also played the roles of the Tin Man at Pleasant Plains high School production of *Wizard of Oz* and George Gibbs in ACTT's *Our Town*.



*Theo Schleider (Donner) is a student at Owen Marsh Elementary. The enjoys Nintendo, gymnastics, trampoline and practicing French. Theo thanks his Mom. Welcome to the STC stage Theo!



Olivia Smith (Mrs. Claus) attends New Berlin High School. Olivia loves theater, drawing, and learning about history. She thanks her parents, past directors, and Cynthia and Shawn. Olivia has performed in Springfield Dance Theater productions, STC's *Junie B. Jones, Jr.* and *It's a Wonderful Life*.



Jasmine Stubbs (Comet) attends Rochester Intermediate School. She receives dance lessons at ABDC, singing lessons, acting, and drawing in her free time. She thanks her mom, dad, mawmaw, Gigi, and sister for supporting her. Jasmine has performed in many shows, including, STC's *June B Jones, Jr.*,

You Don't Know Jack, and A Christmas Carol.



Charlotte "Lotte" Stewart (Prancer) attends school at Blessed Sacrament. She plays piano, dancing, and watching television. She would like to thank her family, especially her parents, for supporting her and encouraging her to audition. She also thanks Cynthia and Shawn for giving her the chance to prance around in this fun show. Lotte has performed in STC's *Annie Get Your Gun*

and TIP's Lion King, Jr.



Izzy Stewart (Holly) attends school at Blessed Sacrament. She enjoys singing, dancing, and reading. She would like to thank her voice teacher, Liz Byerline, and her family for always supporting her. Additionally, she would like to thank Shawn and Cynthia for letting her participate in this show. Izzy has performed in many shows, including STC's *You Don't Know Jack* and *Junie B. Jones,*

Jr., Muni's Evita, and TIP's Oliver.





*Jackie Tucka (Snow Queen) attends Lincoln Magnet School. Her hobbies include musical theater, singing, piano, guitar, painting, and photography. She would like to thank her brother and family for their support, her voice teacher, Elizabeth Donathan, and choir teacher, Mr. William Russell. Jackie has had the opportunity to play in many shows, including Hoogland's *Lion King, Jr., Beauty and the Beast*, and *Seussical the Musical*, and more!

*Genevieve Utterback (Twinkle) attends Chatham Elementary School. She loves playing video games, especially, Pokemon Shield, Girl Scouts, and drawing. She thanks her nana for being so nice and taking care of her, Poppy because he's so silly, Kenny, her parents and Inky because they are all playful and nice. This is her first show!

<u>Staff</u>



Liz Brown-Reeves (Producer) is the Treasurer of Springfield Theatre Centre. Liz is a strong supporter of the arts and believes that community theater should be accessible to all people.



Cynthia Higginson (Co-Director/"Stage" Manager) is the Head of Safety at the Illinois Dept of Revenue. Cynthia is STC's Vice President, directed and acted for STC, Muni, TIP, and The Legacy. Will be portraying Bunny Byron in TIP's *Babes in Arms* in summer 2021. Cynthia enjoys vacationing with her family - 50 states down, next up 7 continents! Cynthia has a huge Thank You to her husband Joe and their children Jacob and Emily for being her biggest support and cheerleaders in doing what she loves! Thanks

to Judy, Kate, Stacey, Jenna, and LauraBeth for saying YES when I called in a panic that we had less than a month to pull a show together! Thank you to all the parents for working with your kids and helping out when we needed it! Thank you to Liz and Bess for being a rock and a sounding board through the last crazy month! And thank you to Shawn - it's been great to meet you through this experience! **Bess Johnson** (Producer) works in Educator Preparation at the Illinois State Board of Education. She enjoys all things theater, especially musical theater. This is her first year serving on the STC Board and her first time assisting in a producer's role. She would like to thank her husband, Dan Johnson, for always supporting her need to be involved in the performing arts. Thank you to her daughters, Grace, Natalie, and Elle for inspiring her to be a better woman, and her bestie, Liz Brown-Reeves, for being a great producer role model, and also a great friend. Bess performed in ADHD's production of *Rocky Horror Show* as a phantom and STC's *Young Frankenstein*.

Judy McEvoy (Vocal Director) is a past member of the STC Board of Directors, and has been active in the community theater scene for over 25 years. In her spare time, she teaches private voice lessons. Thanks to Aaron and our pup, Eleanor.

Melody Sheehan (Props) is a legend in the Springfield theater world. Melody enjoys theater, crocheting and flower gardening. Melody thanks her husband Tim.



Shawn Schofield Smith (Director)has been directing and acting for 31 years now. She has directed for Jacksonville Theatre Guild, TIP, and the Hoogland Education Program just to name a few. Some of her favorite shows to direct were; *Annie, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Charlotte's Web, Great Expectations*, and *The Crucible*. This is her first time directing for STC, and she has enjoyed every minute of the experience! She would like to

thank STC for giving her this opportunity, Cynthia Reynolds Higginson, for being an awesome codirector, Liz Brown-Reeves and Bess Johnson for producing the show, the amazing cast, and her daughter Grace for having patience with her during zoom rehearsals.

Kate VonDeBur (Choreographer) works in the Juvenile Division at Sangamon County State's Attorney's office. She teaches dance at Kinner & Co. Dance Studio. Special thanks to Richard for putting up with her playing Up on the Housetop repeatedly during quarantine. Kate was the choreographer for STC's *Junie B. Jones, Jr.*